

Insert Daycare/School Name or
Logo Here



[DATE]

[ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP]

[PHONE NUMBER]

Dear Parent/Guardian:

A child at your son or daughter's [daycare/school] was found to be infected with a type of bacteria known as *Salmonella*. It infects the intestines but can also cause bloodstream infections (blood poisoning), or other serious complications.

Symptoms can include: diarrhea, abdominal pain or cramping, nausea or vomiting, weight loss, and fever. A person may not have any symptoms at all.

It can be spread by the fecal-oral route. The germs leave an infected person in the stool and are spread by contaminated hands, surfaces, food, or water. In young children, transmission can occur when a child's hands become contaminated and then they put their hands in their mouths. The best way to limit the spread is frequent hand washing for at least 20 seconds using soap and warm running water, being sure to clean all areas of hands and under fingernails.

As always, ill children should be kept at home until they can no longer spread illness. A doctor can tell you when it is okay for your child to go back to school. A child generally cannot return until all of the symptoms are gone and stools are formed (no diarrhea) for at least 48 hours.

Please see the attached fact sheet for more information. If you have any questions please call the Bay County Health Department at 989-895-4003.

Sincerely,

[NAME, TITLE]